1st February 1923]

A.—(1) The Government have no information.
(2) Members of taluk boards are appointed by the President of the District Board. The hon. Member may address the President on the matter.

Location of the tuberculosis hospital.

753 *Q.*—The RAJA OF RAMNAD: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state when it is proposed to shift the tuberculosis hospital from Temple Gardens to the building on the Spur Tank site; whether in-patient wards are available in the latter building and, if not, when they are expected to be constructed and at what cost?

A.—The Tuberculosis Institute at the Spur Tank has no accommodation for in-patients. The question of constructing a ward there for in-patients is under the consideration of the Government; until the ward is built the present hospital cannot be removed from "Temple Gardens."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Sir, I find my question has not been answered. The answer is that the matter is under the consideration of the Government. I do not know whether this means that the very question of constructing an in-patient ward is under consideration, or whether the design, plans and the probable cost are under the consideration of the Government. When the hospital was located in the Temple Gardens, there was a great apprehension in the minds of the residents of the locality and there was also considerable agitation. But the people were told that the hospital would be shifted to the Spur Tank at the earliest possible date as soon as the construction of the in-patient wards was completed. Now the answer given is that the matter is under consideration. I wish to have further details on the point from the hon. Minister."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"There are two schemes relating to the question. Which of them should be taken up is engaging the attention of the Government. So, until the Government decides it, it will not be possible to give any definite answer as to which scheme will be adopted and at what cost."

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—"Will the decision of the Government be arrived at before the Budget time so that provision may be made in the Budget for the construction this year. If it is to be delayed, nothing will happen in the course of this year."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I cannot say definitely whether it can be decided before the Budget time."

Conversion of one leave into another in Government service.

754 *Q.*—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(1) whether heads of departments are authorized to convert one kind of leave into another; and

(2) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent, Government Press, has granted leave on average pay even when the employees are eligible for casual leave?

[1st February 1923

A.—The following extracts from the orders governing the subject will probably sufficiently explain the situation :—

"Leave under the Fundamental Rules cannot be claimed as of right. When the exigencies of the public service so require, discretion to refuse or revoke leave of any description is reserved to the authority empowered to grant it.

Casual leave is not leave under the Fundamental Rules, nor strictly speaking is it leave at all. It cannot be claimed nor is it intended to be given for the purpose of rest or change. It is only intended to provide for short periods of absence in emergencies."

Expenditure incurred by the Board of Revenue without Government sanction.

755 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the authority under which the Board of Revenue incurred an expenditure of Rs. 22,832-15-3 under establishment and contingencies for stamping weights and measures in 1921-22 without the sanction of the Government ?

A.—The hon. Member's attention is invited to the provisions in item 131 of Appendix F of the Appendices to the Madras Treasury Manual and paragraph 3 of Standing Order No. 204 in the Board's Standing Orders, Volume I.

Velugodu and Siddapuram projects.

756 *Q.*—Mr. K. SARABHA REDDI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the circumstances under which the Velugodu and Siddapuram projects were begun and what initial expenditure was incurred in investigating the possibilities of these projects ?

A.—The projects were investigated by the Superintending Engineer appointed on special duty in 1901 for collecting information regarding the protective irrigation schemes in this Presidency to assist in the inquiry of the Irrigation Commission. Figures showing the initial expenditure incurred on the investigation of these projects are not available as the work was carried on for a number of years.

Institution of pipe-system in Nandyal municipality.

757 *Q.*—Mr. K. SARABHA REDDI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Chairman of the Nandyal municipality once forwarded a proposal to the Government for instituting pipe-system in Nandyal ; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken on that proposal ?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The Government have appointed in December 1922 a committee consisting of the Sanitary Engineer, the Director of Public Health and the Director of the King Institute to examine and